

Summer 2009

“How strong is spaghetti?”

Based on their class project at Hartford's 18th Annual Citywide Science Fair, first grade students Kywayne and Tomia may be tomorrow's finest dentists. Their West Middle School class' experiment involved soaking hard-boiled eggs in water and soda, then comparing the results. When presenting their findings to volunteer judge Jane Baird, CCMC Advocacy Coordinator and Chair of SINA's REACH Committee, the young students explained, We couldn't just pull our teeth out and do the experiment, so eggshells were the next best thing, because, like teeth, they have calcium in them.” Then, with true dentist's form, they admonished her, “be good about brushing your teeth so they won't turn brown and green and gross and fall out of your head.”

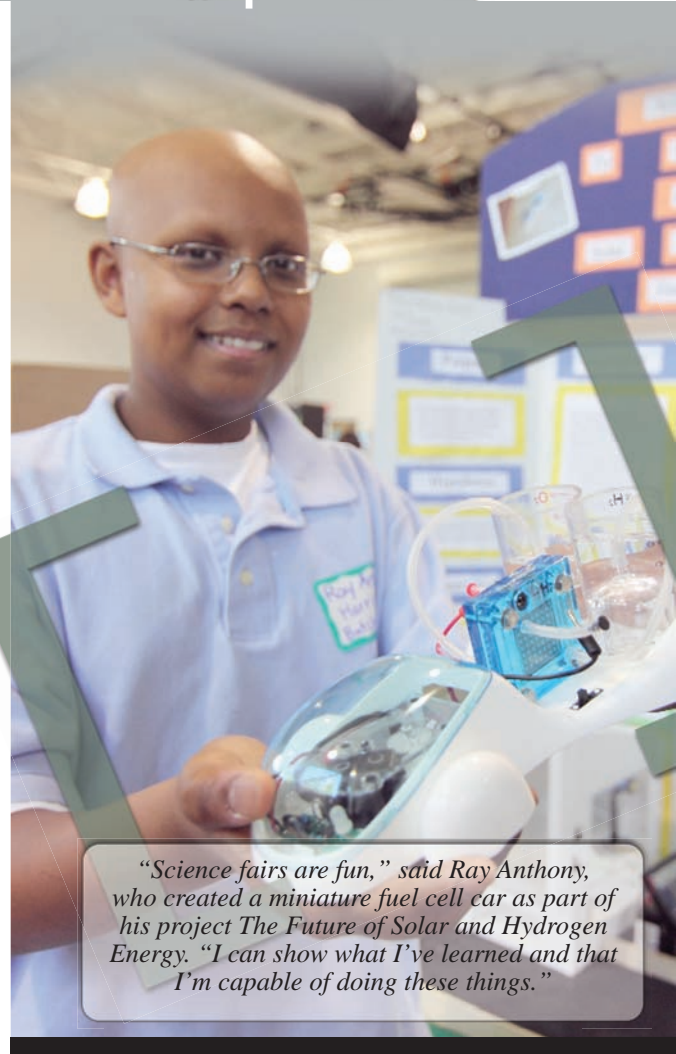


Whether a science fair inspires students like Kywayne and Tomia to pursue science-related careers, or simply provide them with encouragement in their general academic journey, the exciting event is an important part of a child's educational experience. Understanding this, SINA joined efforts with the Hartford Public School System to sponsor this year's Citywide Science Fair held at the Sport & Medical Sciences Academy gymnasium.

“How strong is spaghetti?” “Can a solar oven be used to bake cookies?” “What fruits emit the most gas?” The gymnasium was abuzz with the inquiries and experiments of more than four hundred students, eager to impress the judges with their discoveries. By nature, science fairs provide an excellent opportunity for education and recognition, two of the pillars of SINA's REACH (Recognition, Education, Achievement and Community Health) Committee. To assist with this year's fair, SINA provided logistical, financial and peoplepower support. Additionally, sixteen employees from Connecticut Children's Medical Center, one of SINA's member institutions, volunteered to serve as judges for the fair.

“SINA has a long history of working with the Hartford Public Schools to recognize academic achievement and provide opportunities for Hartford's youth to become successful adults. Our partnership on the Citywide Science Fair is our newest venture that also allows our member institutions to bring to the table some of the unique resources that they can offer to students with an interest in science,” said Jane Baird.

From the initial hypotheses formed to the final honors bestowed at the May 20th Awards Ceremony, this year's Science Fair gave young scholars a chance to develop and showcase their critical thinking skills. Whether exploring the “Fungus Among Us” or “Giving Your House a Green Hug,” the results show the power and possibilities of putting textbook knowledge into action.



“Science fairs are fun,” said Ray Anthony, who created a miniature fuel cell car as part of his project The Future of Solar and Hydrogen Energy. “I can show what I've learned and that I'm capable of doing these things.”

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Each season and year, SINA aims to enhance our efforts and impact in the Southside. In 2009, through strategic collaborations, we're helping create opportunities and improvements in public safety, education and neighborhood revitalization.

As the sidewalks heat up, crime often follows. To help the Hartford Police Department gear up for their summer vigilance, SINA donated two new police bicycles to the Southside substation. While bike patrols are not new to Hartford, their frequency in the neighborhood was limited by the vehicle availability. The new bikes, dedicated exclusively to Southside streets, are part of SINA's continued collaboration with HPD.

On the education front, SINA redirected its efforts this year, partnering with the Board of Education to create the 18th Annual Citywide Science Fair. With many skilled scientists in each of our member institutions, the Science Fair falls in line with our technical and human resources. SINA's REACH Committee began this new "experiment" in response to the restructuring of the Hartford Public School System that created distinct academies in each high school. Looking ahead, SINA hopes to expand its relationship with the Science department to further benefit the youth of our community and city. Not only do Science Fairs give children important recognition and encouragement in their academic journey, but they can inspire science-related careers – careers that are growing ever more important in our global economy.

With today's economic difficulties, job and skill development opportunities are more important than ever. To consolidate these opportunities under one roof, SINA helped create a Community Resource Fair at St. Anne's Immaculate Conception Church. The Community Fair demonstrated the impact possible when different groups bring their strengths to the table: from Connecticut Puerto Rican Forum's focus on employment and training, to MetroHartford Alliance's broader interest in the economic vitality of the Greater Hartford area.

Also partnering with us for the Community Resource Fair was the Frog Hollow NRZ – a new entity formed from the recent merger of the Frog Hollow South and North Frog Hollow NRZs. For years SINA has worked closely with Frog Hollow South NRZ. Working with the now unified group, SINA's community efforts impact a larger geographic area. The new NRZ is a naturally stronger organization, as it brings together great leaderships and combines efforts to address issues and concerns that affect all of Frog Hollow.

Internally, SINA is enhancing its impact with the promotion of John Bailey to Deputy Director. In his previous role as Director of Community and Government Affairs, John went the extra mile, taking on organizational and operational activities. John has demonstrated great effort and accomplishment, well earning him this new responsibility and authority.

In the season ahead, while we all look forward to better times, SINA will continue to develop and implement strategic partnerships that make the best use of and biggest impact on today's sparse resources.



The Giving Spirit



Bringing more than thirty years of senior management experience in both the business and nonprofit sectors, SINA Executive Director, Luis Cabán, is the new chair of the Volunteer Steering Committee of the Latino Endowment Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

"There is a wide gap between meeting the needs of the Latino community and the community's participation in the world of organized philanthropy," said Cabán. "The Hispanic community has a proud history of philanthropy within family and church," said Cabán, noting that nationwide more than 50 percent of Latino households regularly make charitable contributions. "But with Hispanics now comprising more than 40 percent of Hartford's population, this is an excellent time to encourage expansion of that natural generosity into the nonprofit sector, which does so much to serve the needs of our community."

A New Deputy in Town



SINA would like to announce the recent promotion of John Bailey to Deputy Director. With SINA since 2003, John previously worked as SINA's Director of Community and Government Affairs, and was responsible for organizing public safety initiatives including the

Specially Assigned Police Officer Program (SAPO) and quarterly security chiefs meetings; providing technical assistance to community organizations; and serving as a liaison between municipal officials, state elected officials, and Connecticut's congressional delegation.

As Deputy Director, John will continue these duties, as well as oversee staff direction and consultant contract compliance, and represent the Executive Director whenever necessary.

A graduate of Roger Williams University, John recently earned a Master's Degree in Public Policy Studies from Trinity College and completed Trinity College's Non-Profit Executive Director Training Program. With more than ten years of experience working in both the nonprofit world and in state government, John draws from his extensive knowledge as he directs, develops and promotes SINA's comprehensive community revitalization initiative.

An Extra Spin on Safety



New SINA-donated STUMPJUMPER police bicycles are giving Southside public safety some extra spin this summer. On May 26, as part of its ongoing effort to improve safety in the Southside community, SINA presented the Hartford Police Department (HPD) with two state-of-the-art bicycles. Unlike other bicycles kept in police headquarters, the new vehicles are housed in the Southwest Substation at 134 Affleck Street, and dedicated exclusively to patrolling Hartford's Southside neighborhoods.

A bridge between automobile and foot patrols, police bicycles provide mobility to cover ground quickly and effectively. Bikes allow easy access to places where a cruiser cannot: from traffic-blocked streets and back alleys to busy sidewalks, parks and playgrounds. Highly visible, bike patrols create a strong safety statement and make officers seem more approachable – a key aspect in community-oriented policing. As a quiet response method, bikes allow officers to approach problems or suspects stealthily, even in uniform. Additionally, unimpeded habited by car “walls” and windows, officers can use a broader range of senses, including sight, hearing, and even smell, to detect and respond to problems.

Not only are bicycles an effective public safety tool, but these vehicles are cost-efficient as well. With a total cost of \$3,700, SINA purchased the bicycles from Bikers Edge in Bristol, the source of all of Hartford's police bikes. SINA worked in close consultation with HPD to design bikes that are far from the ordinary cycles. These specialized STUMPJUMPERS boast two-wheel disc brakes, upgraded handlebars, improved riser bars, and many other features.

The bicycle dedication ceremony was held Tuesday, May 26, at the Frog Hollow Substation, where SINA Executive Director Luis Cabán, Hartford Police Chief Daryl K. Roberts, and new Police Captain John Betz were in attendance. “This donation will support the Hartford Police Department's continuous efforts to maintain our bicycle patrol unit which began in 1994 as part of our community policing efforts. The new state-of-the-art bicycles will allow us to be more visible and accessible and help us better patrol in congested areas such as Park St. The generosity and cooperation of SINA is greatly appreciated,” said Roberts. Among those in attendance were representatives of Trinity College, Hartford Hospital, the Connecticut Childrens Medical Center, and members of SINA and the police department.

Hartford residents agree with the benefits of having officers on bicycles and out of their cruisers. Frog Hollow activist Doug Campbell said, “It will be nice having officers out of their cars and mingling with the pedestrians. I think it will keep them in touch with and make them a more real part of the community.”

The donation, prompted by SINA's ever-vigilant participation in the public safety of the city's South End, is one of many initiatives between SINA and the HPD. The collaboration includes security chiefs meetings with HPD area captains, the Specially Assigned Police Officer initiative, and participation in the Cops N Kids book drive and youth domino tournament.



United We Stand... and Leap!

A larger frog can make bigger leaps. With the Coqui as its logo, the new Frog Hollow NRZ, formed from the recent merger of the separate North and South Frog Hollow NRZs, is ready to bound forward for even bigger and better impact in the Frog Hollow neighborhood. “Combining the strengths of the NRZs made sense and is making the NRZ a more potent organization,” said David Corrigan, chair of the new NRZ. Most of the community concerns apply to the north and south – and streets, like Broad St. and Washington St., overlap both areas.

“SINA has always been our biggest supporter in Frog Hollow South,” said Doug Campbell who was the Frog Hollow South NRZ chair and now serves as vice chair of the merged NRZ. “Now when we all engage in a project together, we band together with a much larger and louder voice,” said Corrigan.

“SINA brings resources to the table that we didn’t previously have – financial, intellectual and creative - and allows us to build a more durable foundation for the work we are doing,” said Corrigan.

With SINA’s continued support, the new united NRZ has plans to expand its impact in the Frog Hollow neighborhood. To that end, SINA helps the NRZ organize a community job fair this summer and is assisting with the design of the new Frog Hollow NRZ web site. Informative and user-friendly, the new site (www.FHNRZ.com) will serve as a resource for the community, for state and local government, and for the NRZ committees and subcommittees. A database of documents, minutes, agendas, strategic plans, neighborhood guidelines, and a Google calendar will help NRZ members stay informed and save trees.



Frog Hollow NRZ continues to focus on addressing litter and blight, identifying specific problem areas and developing plans for improvement. Looking ahead, the group is working toward a greener garbage solution with the proposed installation of Big Belly solar powered trash compactors.

The NRZ is also gearing up for other “green” opportunities. Today, the green sector is growing rapidly, with a wealth of federal grants earmarked for renewable, sustainable initiatives. SINA and the NRZ aim to see that renewal come to Frog Hollow in the form of new “green” jobs, houses and businesses. Aided by SINA’s experience in grantwriting and administration, the NRZ can access opportunities that will excite new programs to Frog Hollow.

Education Hits the Streets

When it comes to the study of organizational ecology or neighborhood development, textbooks can only take a student so far. Learning must come through first-hand experience. For students at Trinity College, SINA helps facilitate a hands-on, civic-oriented education through its new internship program.

As part of its mission of neighborhood revitalization, SINA serves as a conduit, helping connect its member institutions to the community. It also creates and promotes opportunities for institution employees or patrons to get involved, both enjoying and improving the Southside neighborhood. The Trinity/SINA internship provides a new and dynamic way to further bolster Trinity’s “town and gown” relationship.

Putting the interns into action, SINA is partnering with the Frog Hollow NRZ – the quasi-municipal community group that tackles

tough community challenges like litter and blight to improve the quality of life. Working with the NRZ, the interns get involved in the community on a detailed level. In turn, their assistance helps the NRZ, which is run entirely by volunteers, with its significant burden of work.

“We have reached a point as a Committee at which the kind of assistance the interns can and do provide is crucial to our ability to succeed. The interns are engaged and interested in the work that we do, and in turn they then learn about the neighborhood in which Trinity is situated. Our intern program, which is run through and by SINA, is helping to knit together Trinity and the Committee, and we look forward to a fruitful partnership with Trinity and its students.”

David Corrigan, chairman, Frog Hollow NRZ

Community Resource Fair Prepares Residents of Hartford's Southside for Stimulus Opportunities

It was a chilly winter, and not just the weather. The cold economic climate affected jobs, housing and families, and left many longing for a little sunshine in the forecast. With Stimulus Funds looming opportunities include job training and skill development programs, such as the OSHA-certified ESL for construction work or training for summer youth jobs, created to help people prepare and access new employment possibilities.

SINA, along with MetroHartford Alliance, Connecticut Puerto Rican Forum, and Frog Hollow Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Committee organized the fair.

SINA Executive Director, Luis Cabán said, “through this event we provided the community with knowledge on employment requirements and an opportunity to network with others and for service providers to promote their organizations.” Cabán went on to say, “By partnering



Individuals and families found a wealth of information and opportunities at the Community Resource Fair

with other organizations the fair developed effective workforce solutions to increase workers' skills and advance families to self-sufficiency.”

SINA and its partners say they're filling a gap in services because says the Fair at St. Anne's Immaculate Conception Church was a microcosm of its effort to assess community needs and coordinate the service providers to utilize resources that support each other and the community.

One Community Fair visitor Amaan Hasan said, “The fair was positive because it was nice for people to have a place where they can walk off the street and get info on things they may not know about.”

More than twenty vendors representing community based organizations (Financial Resource Center), private companies (like FedEx), and government agencies (Dept. of Labor and Census 2010) all participated. The CT Children's Medical Center provided information on child safety and gave out free smoke alarms, and the Department of Labor Career Express bus, parked just outside, offered a glimpse of its mobile job-search resources.



Vendors participating in the Resource Fair included Census 2010, providing education about the importance of the upcoming census - a national effort that affects political representation and directs the allocation of billions of dollars in government funding.

SINA Participates in Connecticut's Official “Nonprofit Week”

In its commitment to revitalize the Southside, SINA works side-by-side with many organizations – groups with diverse missions but the same goal: enhance the quality of life for citizens of the Southside. In order to effectively address issues and concerns in SINA's target neighborhoods, SINA's collaborations and impact often extend beyond the Southside. Its affordable housing advocacy has benefited the Southside community, as well as the Greater Hartford area and the entire state.

Understanding the intrinsic value of networking and partnership, SINA recently participated in CT Nonprofits Week at the Capitol hosted by Connecticut Association on Nonprofits. On February 18, SINA joined other nonprofits exhibiting their missions in the concourse between the Legislative Office Building and the State Capitol Building – a location chosen to give the organizations a chance to network and educate policy makers and the public about their work and impact.

Governor M. Jodi Rell acknowledged the weeklong event, and the ongoing work of Connecticut's nonprofit organizations, by issuing a proclamation determining February 16 – 20 to be ‘Connecticut Nonprofits Week’ in the state of Connecticut.

SINA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidating Statement of Financial Positions For the year ended December 31, 2007

	SINA Corp.	Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.	Pope Park Zion, LLC	SINA Properties, Inc.	Vernon Street Bus Garage Cleanup Corp.	Urban Preservation I, LLC	Presidents Corner Housing, LP	Presidents Corner Development, LLC	Eliminating Entries	Consolidated Total
Assets										
Current assets:										
Cash	\$ 1,382	\$ 1,174,719	\$ 286,986	\$ 12,258	\$ 8,101	\$ -	\$ 16,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,499,946
Grants and other receivables	54,625	127,843	352,599	-	3,711	-	-	-	(88,725)	450,053
Prepaid and other assets	-	12,504	-	474	-	-	-	-	-	12,978
Total current assets	56,007	1,315,066	639,585	12,732	11,812	-	16,500	-	(88,725)	1,962,977
Other assets:										
Investment in affiliates	43,149	1,337,593	-	-	-	7	-	(15)	(1,380,704)	30
Due from affiliates	-	863,032	-	180,579	-	100	1	-	(771,849)	271,863
Real estate in development, net of allowance	-	176,968	1,441,790	47,254	-	-	649,786	-	-	2,315,798
Rental real estate, less accumulated depreciation of \$775,401	-	399,684	-	205,440	-	-	-	-	-	605,124
Office equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$40,296	-	10,747	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,747
Loan or origination fee, net	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,750	-	-	10,750
Total assets	\$ 99,156	\$ 4,103,090	\$ 2,081,375	\$ 446,005	\$ 11,812	\$ 107	\$ 677,037	\$ (15)	\$ (2,241,278)	\$ 5,177,289
Liabilities and Net Assets										
Current liabilities:										
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 126,749	\$ 150,150	\$ 10,203	\$ 1,374	\$ 250	\$ -	\$ 250	\$ (121,098)	\$ 167,878
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	-	108,338	6,250	(101)	250	-	250	-	-	114,987
Total current liabilities	-	235,087	156,400	10,102	1,624	250	250	250	(121,098)	282,865
Long-term liabilities:										
Note payable	-	-	13,275	-	-	-	550,000	-	-	563,275
Due to affiliates	54,625	40	1,078,312	-	-	2,254	128,548	161	(1,261,645)	2,295
Total liabilities	54,625	235,127	1,247,987	10,102	1,624	2,504	678,798	411	(1,382,743)	848,435
Unrestricted net assets:										
Unrestricted net assets	44,531	3,832,462	-	-	-	-	-	-	(154,531)	3,722,462
Capital stock	-	-	-	1,408,363	43,148	100	100	100	(1,451,811)	-
Retained earnings deficit	-	-	833,388	(972,460)	(32,960)	(2,497)	(1,861)	(526)	747,807	570,891
Total unrestricted net assets	44,531	3,832,462	833,388	435,903	10,188	(2,397)	(1,761)	(426)	(858,535)	4,293,353
Temporarily restricted net assets:										
Grants	-	35,501	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,501
Total net assets	44,531	3,867,963	833,388	435,903	10,188	(2,397)	(1,761)	(426)	(858,535)	4,328,854
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 99,156	\$ 4,103,090	\$ 2,081,375	\$ 446,005	\$ 11,812	\$ 107	\$ 677,037	\$ (15)	\$ (2,241,278)	\$ 5,177,289

SINA CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

Consolidating Statement of Activities For the year ended December 31, 2007

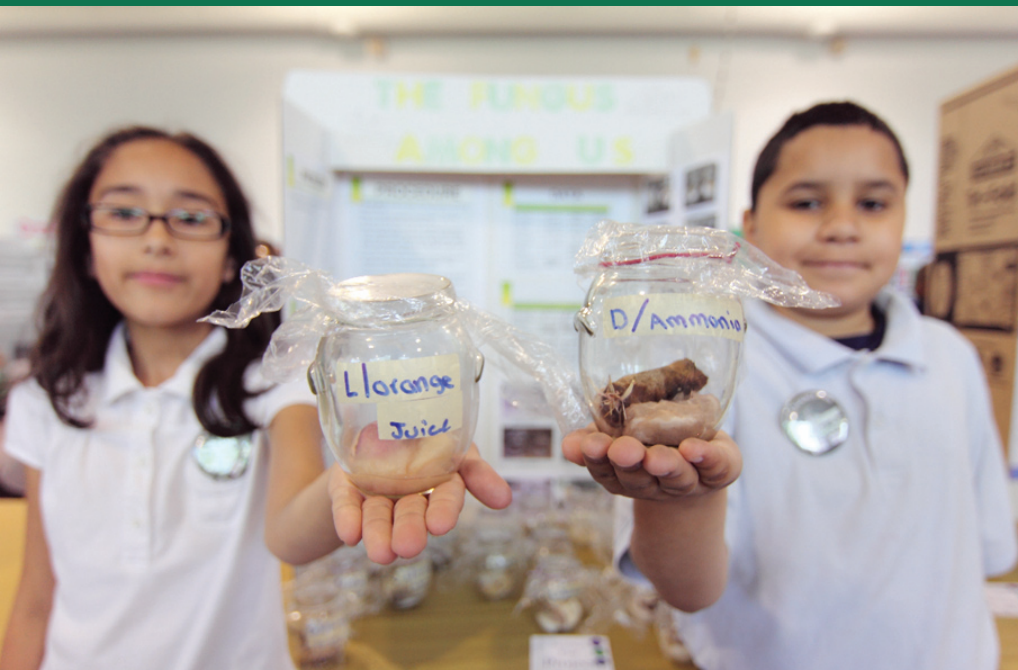
	SINA Corp.	Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.	Pope Park Zion, LLC	SINA Properties, Inc.	Vernon Street Bus Garage Cleanup Corp.	Urban Preservation I, LLC	Presidents Corner Housing, LP	Presidents Corner Development, LLC	Eliminating Entries	Consolidated Total
Change in unrestricted net assets:										
Revenues:										
Membership assessments	\$ 224,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 224,250
Hartford Hospital	224,250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	224,250
Trinity College	224,250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	224,250
Connecticut Children's Medical Center										
Total membership assessments	672,750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	672,750
Other revenues:										
Grants	-	-	114,270	-	-	-	-	-	(114,270)	-
Sale of properties	-	-	-	307,781	-	-	-	-	(187,579)	120,202
Gain on sale of real estate	-	51,056	-	15,600	-	-	-	-	(15,600)	51,056
Miscellaneous income and other income	-	61,985	402	-	-	-	-	-	(61,985)	402
Interest	-	13,188	22,317	108	6	-	-	-	-	35,619
Contributions	-	681,852	-	-	-	-	-	-	(672,750)	9,102
Total other revenues	-	808,081	136,989	323,489	6	-	-	-	(1,052,184)	216,381
Net assets released from restrictions for operations	-	138,149	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	138,149
Total revenues	672,750	946,230	136,989	323,489	6	-	-	-	(1,052,184)	1,027,280
Expenses:										
Economic and real estate development	-	129,998	-	-	-	-	-	-	(114,270)	15,728
Organizational	66	537,082	26,621	3,695	400	-	260	260	(77,585)	490,799
Programs	672,750	121,168	-	-	-	-	-	-	(672,750)	121,168
Rental real estate	-	124,330	24,787	206,260	-	250	-	-	(188,112)	167,515
Total expenses	672,816	912,578	51,408	209,955	400	250	260	260	(1,052,717)	795,210
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(66)	33,652	85,581	113,534	(394)	(250)	(260)	(260)	533	232,070
Other changes in unrestricted net assets:										
Equity in loss of SINA Properties, Inc.	-	(24,305)	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,305	-
Equity in gain of Pope Park Zion, LLC	-	85,581	-	-	-	-	-	-	(85,581)	-
Equity in loss of Urban Preservation I, LLC	-	(109)	-	-	-	-	-	-	109	-
Equity in loss of Presidents Corner Housing, LP	-	(257)	-	-	-	-	-	-	257	-
Equity in loss of Presidents Corner Development, LLC	-	(263)	-	-	-	(23)	-	-	263	(23)
Equity in loss of Urban Preservation Associates, LP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Conversion of Pope Park Zion, LLC from equity method to a fully consolidated entity	-	373,906	747,807	-	-	-	-	-	(225,638)	896,075
Change in unrestricted net assets	(66)	468,205	833,388	113,534	(394)	(273)	(260)	(260)	(285,752)	1,128,122
Unrestricted net assets, beginning of year	44,597	3,364,257	-	322,369	10,582	(2,124)	(1,501)	(166)	(572,783)	3,165,231
Unrestricted net assets, end of year	44,531	3,832,462	833,388	435,903	10,188	(2,397)	(1,761)	(426)	(858,535)	4,293,353
Temporarily restricted net assets, beginning of year:										
Net assets released from restrictions	-	100,050	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,050
Grants	-	(138,149)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(138,149)
Temporarily restricted net assets, end of year	-	73,600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73,600
	-	35,501	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,501
Net assets, end of year	\$ 44,531	\$ 3,867,963	\$ 833,388	\$ 435,903	\$ 10,188	\$ (2,397)	\$ (1,761)	\$ (426)	\$ (858,535)	\$ 4,328,854



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Young scientists at Hartford's 18th Annual Citywide Science Fair grew their curiosity by growing mold as part of their class project "The Fungus Among Us." See Front Cover for full article.



SINA welcomes its newest board member, Theresa Hendricksen.



SINA would like to welcome its newest board member, Theresa Hendricksen. Theresa has served as Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at CCMC since 2005. She joined SINA's board in March 2009

"SINA is an important piece of south Hartford's neighborhood. They pull together various people and agencies to make the neighborhood better and safer. They offer families and individuals opportunities for housing that they might not otherwise have. Having worked in the south end for 25 years, I am committed to helping SINA continue their mission of improving the lives of the residents."

SINA's mission is to work cooperatively with the community to develop leadership and improve the economic, physical and social characteristics of Hartford's Front Hollow, Barry Square and South Green Neighborhoods.

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LUIS C. CABAN - Executive Director • JOHN M. BAILEY - Deputy Director

IVETTE QUIROS - Executive Assistant • KEITH HEDMAN - Fiscal Officer • LINDA VALENTIN - Clerical Support

staff

mission

SINA